

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-2, 4-14, and 16-38 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 13, 27, and 32 being independent. Claims 3 and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11, 13, 14, 16-20, 22, 23, 25 and 27-38 have been amended. Applicants submit that support for the amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

The Abstract and the Summary of the Invention have been amended to conform to the currently-pending claims. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added.

Claim 36 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. That claim has been amended to recite a computer-readable medium, and therefore Applicants submit that it is clearly directed to a statutory category of subject matter. Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claims 1-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,968,058 (Kondoh et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

As recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, the features of a first verification data generation unit adapted to generate first verification data from image data using first information and not using public key cryptography, and a second verification data generation unit adapted to generate second verification data from

the image data using second information and public key cryptography, if it is verified by a first verification unit that the image data is not altered. Since the first verification data is generate without using public key cryptography, the burden on the calculation unit of the image generation device is reduced. Applicants submit that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least these features.

Kondon et al. discloses a verification system in which an external apparatus 101 verifies whether image data generated by a camera 100 is altered. (See, e.g., Fig. 1.) In the disclosed system, an image file, such as “A” shown in Fig. 2, that includes verification data MAC generated in the camera is transmitted from the camera to the verification apparatus. That apparatus generates MD1 and MD2 from the MAC and the image file and verifies whether the image data is altered or not, on the basis of a comparison result of the generated MD1 and MD2. However, the camera generates the MAC by generating MD from the image data and then encrypting the MD using public key cryptography that uses a public key and a private key (see, e.g., Fig. 2). Thus, that reference fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature of generating first verification data from the image data using first information and not using public key cryptography.

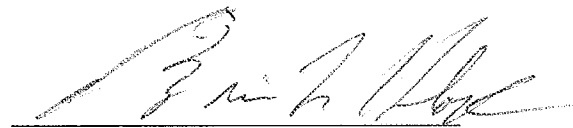
For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention recited in independent Claim 1 is patentable over the cited art. Independent Claims 13, 27, and 32 each recite features that are similar to some of the features in Claim 1, and those independent claims are believed patentable for reasons similar to Claim 1.

The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as the dependent claims from which they depend, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Klock", is written over a horizontal line.

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